But beſides this miſchief from poiſonous Exhalations, Stagnation of the Air, or Water impregnated with minerall ſpirits, they ſometimes periſh by other ways. For there being in theſe Mines an incredible maſs of wood to ſupport the Pitts and the Horizontal paſſages, (the *Putei* and *Cuniculi*) in all places but where 'tis Rocky, men are ſometimes deſtroy'd by the wood ſet on fire. And in the Gold-mine at *Chremnitz* the wood was once ſet on fire by the careleſneſs of a boy, and 50 Miners ſmothered thereby; who were all taken out but one, that was afterwards found to be diſſolv'd by the Vitriol water, nothing eſcaping either of fleſh or bones but only ſome of his cloaths. I am *&c.*

Vienna April. 20 1669.

A Chronological Accompt of the ſeveral Incendium's *or Fires of Mount* Ætna.

THe preſent Fire of *Ætna*, (whereof there was lately a Relation printed here in the *Savoy*) will make it appear not unſeaſonable to reflect back upon former Ages, and to collect from Hiſtory the ſeverall Eruptions hapned there, together with the times of them, and ſome obſervations recorded by Authors concerning the ſame.

To paſs by what is related by *Beroſus*, *Orpheus* and other leſs credible Authors, about the Eruptions of this Mountain, both at the time of the ingreſs of the *Ionian* Colonies into Sicily, and that of the *Argonautes* (which latter was in the 12th Age before the Chriſtian account;) we ſhall firſt take notice of that, which happen'd at the time of the Expedition of *Æneas*, who being terrified by the fire of this then burning Mountain, left that Iſland; whereof *Virgil* l. 3. *Æneid.* gives this notable deſcription;

Ignarique viæ, Cyclopum allabimur oris,
Portus ab acceſſu ventorum immotus et ingens,
Ipſe ſed horrificis juxta tonat Ætna ruinis,
Interdumque etiam prorumpit ad æthera nubem
Turbine fumantem picco et candente favillâ.
Attollitque globos flammarum, et ſidera lambit.

Interdum

Interdum ſcopulos, avulſaque viſcera Montis
Erigit eructans, liquefactaque ſaxa ſub auras
Cum gemitu glomerat, fundoque exæſtuat imo.

After this we find in *Thucydides*, that in the 76. *Olympiad*, which is about 476. before Chriſt, there was another Fire, and about 50. years after that, another.

Then, in the time of the *Roman Conſulls* there haped four Eruptions of *Ætna*, recorded by *Diodorus Siculus* and *Polybius*.

The next was in the time of *Julius Cæſar*, related by the ſaid *Diodorus* to have been ſo feirce, that the Sea about *Lipara* (an iſland neere *Sicily*) by its fervent heat burnt the Ships, and kill'd all Fiſhes thereabout.

Another we read of in the Reign of *Caligula*, about 40. years after Chriſt, which was ſo dreadful, that it made that Emperour, then being in *Sicily*, to fly for it.

About the Martyrdome of the Romiſh S. *Agatha* it burned againe very fiercely; though ſome ſay, that by vertue of her interceſſion it was ſtay'd from reaching *Catania*.

Againe it burnt A. C. 812. in the Reign of Charles M.

Then from the year 1160 to 1669. whole *Sicily* was ſhaken with many terrible Earth-quakes, and the Eruptions of the ſame Mountain deſtroyed a vaſt tract of inhabited land round about it, and reacht as far as *Catania*; the Cathedral of which it deſtroy'd, and the religious men living in it.

Againe, in the year 1284. there happened another terrible fire about the time of the death of *Charles* king of *Sicily* and *Arragon*.

A. 1329 untill 1333. there was another. A. 1408. another.

A. 1444. another, which laſted till 1447.

A. 1536. another, which laſted a year.

A. 1633. another, continuing ſeveral years.

A. 1650. it burnt on the North-Eaſt-ſide, and vomited ſo much fire, that by the fiery Torrents, cauſed thereby, great devaſtation was made, as *Kircher* relates in his *Mundus ſubterraneus*; whoſe aſſiſtance we have alſo made uſe of in the foregoing Chronology together with that of *Philotheus*.

The ſame Author, having been in *Sicily* himſelf, obſerveth, that the people of *Catania*, digging for Pumice-ſtones, do find at the depth of 100 palmes (which is about 68. feet) ſtreets na-

ved

ved with Marble, and many footſteps of Antiquity; an argument, that Towns have ſtood there in former ages, which have been overwhelmed by the Matter caſt out of this Mountain. They have alſo found ſeveral Bridges of Pumice-ſtones, doubtleſs made by the flux of the fiery Torrents, the Earth being very much raiſed ſince.

Now whether theſe Eruptions are cauſed by actual ſubteraneous Fires, lighting upon combuſtible matter; or by Fire ſtruck out of falling and breaking ſtones, whoſe ſparks meet with Nitro-ſulphureous or other inflamable ſubſtances heap'd together in the bowels of the Earth, and by the expanſive violence of the Fire forc'd to take more room, and ſo burſting out with the impetuoſity we ſee; may not be unworthy of a Philoſopher's ſpeculation.

An Account

Concerning a Woman having a Double Matrix; *as the Publiſher hath Engliſhed it out of* French, *lately printed at* Paris, *where the Body was opened.*

This Figure (which in the *Cut* here annex'd is the II.) repreſents the two * Matrixes, found *januar.* 6 1669. by *Benoit Vaſſal* Chirurgeon, opening the Body of a woman of 32. years of age, of a ſanguin Conſtitution, and a maſculin port. Theſe two Matrixes were ſo well diſpoſed by an extraordinary contrivance of Nature, that the True one had conceived eleven ſeverall times, *viz.* 7. males and 4. femals, all born at the full time, and all perfectly well form'd; but they were at laſt follow'd by a brother yet a *fœtus*, that was conceiv'd in an adjunct *Uterus*, in a place ſo little capable of diſtenſion, that ſeeking enlargement, after it had cauſed to the Mother for two months and an half grievous ſymptoms, did at laſt, being of the age of about 3. or 4. months, break priſon, and found its grave in that of its mother, by a very great effuſion of blood in the whole capacity of her *abdomen*; which caſt the mother into ſuch violent convulſive motions for 3. days together, that ſhe dyed of them. Where-upon the ſaid *Vaſſal*, after, having embalmed the parts, he had made at his houſe for a whole month together the particular diſſection thereof, before all the moſt Curious and knowing Phyſitians, Chirurgeons, Apothecaries, Mid-wifes, and other Searchers of Nature, that are in *Paris*, thought good to preſerve the Hiſtory thereof by committing it and the Figure of the parts ſpoken of, to the Preſs, together with a Table, for better explanation; which we think fit here to annex in *Latin*:

* *It may be, that that, which is by M.* Vaſſal, *Publiſher of this Relation, eſteem'd a* ſecond *Womb, is nothing elſe, but the true* Matrix *lengthen'd, or that, which by Anatomiſts is call'd* Tuba Fallopii. *See.* Bartol. *Anatom. Reform. l. 1. c 27. and others.*